

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/525,620
Reply to Office Action dated April 4, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Dispensing device for drinks or similar dosable liquid foodstuffs comprising:

a plurality of supply means for supplying a specific foodstuff or a mixture of specific foodstuffs;

a filling mechanism for filling a container with a predetermined amount of a specified foodstuff or mixture of foodstuffs;

an identification means comprising at least one sensor for detecting at least one of shape characteristics and weight of containers that differ from one another but that are all designed to be filled with a foodstuff for subsequent consumption from the container, and adapted to send out an identification signal that specifies the particular container detected; and a programmable memory in which at least one of amount signals and choice signals corresponding to the identification signal are stored, for specifying the foodstuffs;

a valve mechanism adapted such that in response to the identification signal it the valve mechanism puts at least one of the supply means in communication with the filling mechanism, so that the container can be filled with a predetermined amount of the specified foodstuff or mixture of foodstuffs[.]; and

learning means with a manually actuatable dispensing control for dispensing a foodstuff into a container and for storing in the memory data relating to at least one of the amount and state of filling in dependence on the identification signal; wherein the learning means provides for entering into the device specification data for a specific foodstuff in dependence on the identification signal.

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2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously Presented) Dispensing device according to Claim 1, wherein the identification means comprises reading means to read information attached to the container.
4. (Previously Presented) Dispensing device according to Claim 1, wherein the identification means is adapted to send out a start signal, which releases the valve mechanism for filling the container when the container is in a predetermined position with respect to the filling mechanism.
5. (Previously Presented) Dispensing device according to Claim 1, wherein a manually actuatable start switch is provided to send out a start signal that causes a filling process to begin.
6. (Previously Presented) Dispensing device according to Claim 1, wherein the filling mechanism is adapted to fill simultaneously two containers with the specified foodstuff, the identification means is designed to send out position signals, and the filling mechanism is controlled so that either one or two containers are filled, depending on how many are present.
7. (Currently Amended) Dispensing device for drinks or similar dosable liquid foodstuffs comprising:
 - a plurality of supply means for supplying a specific foodstuff or a mixture of specific foodstuffs;
 - a filling mechanism for filling a container with a predetermined amount of a specified foodstuff or mixture of foodstuffs;

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identification means comprising at least one sensor for detecting at least one of shape characteristics and weight of containers that differ from one another but that are all designed to be filled with a foodstuff for subsequent consumption from the container, and adapted to send out an identification signal that specifies the container detected; and

a valve mechanism adapted such that in response to the identification signal it puts at least one of the supply means in communication with the filling mechanism, so that the container can be filled with a predetermined amount of the specified foodstuff or mixture of foodstuffs;

~~Dispensing device according to Claim 1,~~ wherein the identification means ~~comprises~~ comprise a filling-state sensor ~~by means of which it is possible~~ to specify a maximal filling state to which the container is to be filled with the foodstuff.

8-9. (Cancelled)